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characterised by movable jaws which act on the strand (2) at  
right angles to the axis of the pressure cylinder (18).--

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a discussion of prior art references has been inserted on page 2 and other minor amendments have been made in the specification. Claims 1-11 have been replaced by new claims 12-19 and an Abstract is being provided. These changes correspond with the changes made in the International application. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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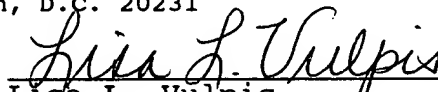
Enclosure: Abstract

  
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Date of Deposit January 30, 2001

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Lisa L. Vulpis